

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 14253 01 OF 06 131116Z

13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 DPW-01 IO-10 /082 W

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R 131015Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0269

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 14253 01 OF 06 131116Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 6 SAIGON 14253

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MIL VS

SUBJECT: VIET-NAM WEEKLY CEASEFIRE ASSESSMENT,
NOVEMBER 6-12, 1974

PART I -- SUMMARY

A. THE GENERALLY MODERATE TO LOW LEVEL OF MILITARY ACTIVITY CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THREE OF THE FOUR MILITARY REGIONS THIS WEEK. MR-4, HOWEVER, SAW SUCH A MARKED PICKUP OF INCIDENTS THAT THE OVERALL TOTALS FOR BOTH INCIDENT ACTIVITY AND CASUALTIES WERE UP. INDEED, THE INCIDENT LEVEL WAS UP OVER 50 PERCENT COUNTRYWIDE, HIGHLIGHTED BY AN ALMOST 200 PERCENT INCREASE IN THE DELTA. CASUALTIES FOLLOWED A SIMILAR PATTERN, AND WERE ABOUT THE SAME OR DOWN SLIGHTLY EXCEPT FOR THE DELTA WHERE THE INCREASE ON BOTH SIDES WAS OVER 100 PERCENT. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT NEW PLUS FOR THE GVN INVOLVED THE RETAKING OF HILL 1062 IN CENTRAL QUANG NAM PROVINCE OF MR-1 BY AIRBORNE UNITS NOV 9. THE COMMUNISTS ARE PRESSING COUNTERATTACKS AGAINST THE HILL, BUT THE GVN IS HOLDING THE POSITION.

B. THE BATTLE FOR MO TAU MOUNTAIN IN MR-1 HAS CONTINUED THROUGH ANOTHER WEEK. THE FIGHTING HAS BEEN SUSTAINED, AND AT TIMES HEAVY, BUT GVN EFFORTS HAVE STILL NOT MET WITH SUCCESS. THE OTHER NOTEWORTHY ACTIVITY NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS INVOLVED TWO UNSUCCESSFUL COMMUNIST SAPPER ATTEMPTS TO BLOW UP AN AMMUNITION STORAGE AREA NEAR PHU BAI AIRBASE. THERE WERE TWO ATTACKS IN THE BINH SON AREA OF QUANG NGAI, WHICH MAY FORESHADOW A COMMUNIST INTENTION TO FOCUS ON THIS AREA. SIXTY-SEVEN CIVILIANS WERE ABDUCTED IN THE QUANG NGAI CITY AREA OVER NOV 9 AND 10, WHILE FOUR CULVERTS ON QL 1 WERE DAMAGED NOV 11 AND 12 WITH SOME INTERRUPTION IN
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PAGE 03 SAIGON 14253 01 OF 06 131116Z

TRAFFIC.

C. IT WAS GENERALLY A LIGHT WEEK IN MR-2. IT COULD ALMOST BE DESCRIBED AS AN INTERMISSION FOR THE OPPOSING FORCES WHILE THE WEATHER SCENE CHANGES, WITH THE MONSOON MOVING TO THE COAST AND THE HIGHLANDS BEGINNING TO DRY OUT. THE COMMUNIST EFFORT TO MOVE ARVN FROM A COMMANDING POSITION OVER THE AN LAO VALLEY NVA RESUPPLY ROUTE

IS STILL THE BIG FIGHT IN MR-2, BUT ITS INTENSITY LESS-
ENED THIS WEEK. KONTUM SECTOR INTELLIGENCE HAS PICKED
UP REPORTS THAT THE 40TH NVA ARTILLERY REGIMENT HAS
MOVED TO A POSITION WITHIN RANGE OF KONTUM CITY. LOC
HARRASSMENT AND INTERDICTION CONTINUED TO BE A COMMUNIST
TARGET DURING THE PERIOD, DURING WHICH QL 19 IN BINH
DINH AND QL 21 IN NINH HOA WERE ATTACKED. THE FORMER
IS STILL INTERDICTIONED WEST OF BINH KHE. FINALLY, A VC
SAPPER TEAM EARLY THE MORNING OF NOV 13 BLEW UP
THE WATER PIPELINE WHICH RUNS FROM THE RESERVOIR IN
TUYEN DUC PROVINCE TO THE DA NHIM ELECTRIC POWER PLANT
IN NINH THUAN PROVINCE. ATTACKS AGAINST THE ELECTRIC
POWER LINES RUNNING SOUTHWARD TOWARD SAIGON HAVE BEEN
FAIRLY COMMONPLACE OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS AND ONE
ATTACK WAS MADE RECENTLY AGAINST THE LINE IN NINH THUAN.
HOWEVER, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE PIPELINE
ITSELF HAS BEEN DAMAGED.

D. THINGS WERE REASONABLY QUIET IN MR-3, WITH THE COM-
MUNISTS CONTINUING THEIR TRINITY OF TERRORISM, SAPPER
ATTACKS AND LIGHT SHELLING. BINH DUONG, YET AGAIN THE
MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE, WAS THE SCENE OF MORE AND FIERCER
GROUND FIGHTING THAN HAS BEEN ITS NORM RECENTLY, WITH
SEVERAL COMPANY-SIZE BATTLES. COMMUNIST SAPPER AND
TERRORIST EFFORTS WERE AGAIN PREVALENT IN GIA DINH.
HOWEVER, ONE SAPPER EFFORT TO BLOW UP THE LON BRIDGE
IN GIA DINH, AS WELL AS AN ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP A POLICE
HQ AND ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP A BRIDGE IN LONG AN
PROVINCE WERE THWARTED.

E. ACTIVITY WAS MARKEDLY HIGHER THIS WEEK IN THE DELTA,
WITH VINH LONG PROVINCE PARTICULARLY HARD HIT. ALTHOUGH
ACTIVITY GENERALLY IN THE NORTHERN DELTA WAS MODERATE,
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PAGE 04 SAIGON 14253 01 OF 06 131116Z

GIAO DUC DISTRICT TOWN IN DINH TUONG CAME UNDER HEAVY

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 14253 02 OF 06 131159Z

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COMUSMACHTAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 14253 02 OF 06 131159Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 6 SAIGON 14253

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

FIRE FOR THE SECOND TIME IN SIX WEEKS. KIEN PHONG

PROVINCE WAS INACTIVE THIS WEEK, BUT SECTOR INTELLIGENCE

ANTICIPATES A SURGE IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. EASTERN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE SAW ADDITIONAL KIDNAPPINGS, AN OCCURRENCE THAT IS BECOMING MORE PREVALENT THERE. VINH LONG IN THE CENTRAL DELTA HAD ITS GREATEST NUMBER OF INCIDENTS SINCE THE CEASEFIRE, WITH THE COST HIGH TO THE GVN IN BOTH CASUALTIES AND TERRITORIAL SECURITY. MANY OUTPOSTS AND WATCHTOWERS WERE ABANDONED OR OVERRUN, AND A NUMBER OF PROVINCE AND DISTRICT ROADS WERE INTERDICTED. ARVN 7TH DIVISION TROOPS HAVE BEEN MOVED IN AS SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FORCES. IN CONTRAST KIEN HOA PROVINCE WAS ESSENTIALLY INACTIVE, WITH COMMUNIST FIRE NUMBERING FOUR OR LESS ROUNDS IN THE INCIDENTS THAT OCCURRED THERE. SECTOR CONCLUDES THERE MAY BE A COMMUNIST SUPPLY PROBLEM. INCIDENTS IN THE SOUTHERN DELTA PROVINCE OF BA XUYEN WERE HIGHER THIS WEEK, AND IN AN XUYEN -- THE SOUTHERNMOST PROVINCE -- MARKEDLY SO.

PART II -- ICCS

THE LEGAL AND FINANCIAL DISPUTE WITH PA&E WAS EASED WHEN PA&E, MOVED BY AN APPEAL FROM ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE INGERSOLL, WITHDREW ITS TERMINATION NOTICE ON NOV 9. NEGOTIATIONS FOR A REVISED GENERAL SERVICES CONTRACT RESUMED NOV 11. A MAIN CONTRIBUTORY CAUSE OF THIS DISPUTE HAS BEEN HUNGARIAN INSISTENCE ON LIMITING THE POWERS OF THE ICCS DIRECTOR GENERAL SO SEVERELY AS TO PROVOKE A NEAR-PARALYSIS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARIAT. GENERAL SURONO, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE INDONESIAN ARMED FORCES, WITH OTHER SENIOR INDONESIAN OFFICERS, VISITED SAIGON NOV 8-11. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THEY WILL CONTRIBUTE TO A NEW ASSESSMENT OF THE INDONESIAN ROLE IN THE ICCS.

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 14253 02 OF 06 131159Z

PART III -- FPJMT, TPJMC AND RELATED MATTERS

THE DRV/"PRG" BOYCOTT OF THE FPJMT AND TPJMC CONTINUED INTO ITS TWENTY-FIRST WEEK.

PART IV -- COMMUNIST MEDIA COMMENT

NEGATIVE REACTION TO GVN CALL FOR NEGOTIATIONS. COMMUNIST MEDIA HAVE ATTACKED NOV 7 GVN CALL FOR UNCONDITIONAL RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS IN PARIS AND SAIGON AND THE US STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THAT INITIATIVE. SPOKESMAN OF "PRG" PARIS DELEGATION NOV 9 ISSUED A STATEMENT CHARGING THAT "THE US AND THIEU HAVE SYSTEMATICALLY AND EVER MORE BRAZENLY SABOTAGED THE PARIS AGREEMENT," AND THAT "THE THIEU CLIQUE, AIDED BY THE US, HAS SOUGHT TO

PLACATE OR REPRESS...WITH VARIOUS BLOODY MANEUVERS"
THE STRUGGLE MOVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE "DEMANDING PEACE,
NATIONAL CONCORD, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND A DECENT LIFE."
THE STATEMENT WENT ON TO SAY: "THEREFORE, THE THIEU AD-
MINISTRATION'S DEMAND FOR UNCONDITIONAL RESUMPTION OF
THE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES
AND WASHINGTON'S APPROVAL OF THAT DECEITFUL STATEMENT
ARE BOTH AIMED AT COPING WITH THE STRUGGLE MOVEMENT
AGAINST THE US AND THIEU WAGED BY THE SOUTHERN URBANITES,
AND WITH THE OCTOBER 8 STATEMENT OF THE PRGRSV, AND AT
COVERING UP THEIR SCHEME OF CONTINUING THE WAR AND SABOT-
AGING THE PARIS PEACE AGREEMENT." THE STATEMENT DECLARED
FURTHER: "THE US MUST END ITS MILITARY INVOLVEMENT AND
INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SVN, AND NGUYEN
VAN THIEU AND HIS GANG MUST BE TOPPLED, IN ORDER TO ES-
TABLISH IN SAIGON AN ADMINISTRATION THAT DESIRES PEACE
AND CONCORD AND IS WILLING TO SCRUPULOUSLY IMPLEMENT THE
PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIETNAM. THE PRGRSV IS READY TO
NEGOTIATE WITH SUCH AN ADMINISTRATION WITH A VIEW TO
RAPIDLY RESOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF SVN...ONLY BY
MEETING THESE TWO DEMANDS WILL IT BE POSSIBLE TO END
THE WAR AND ACHIEVE TRUE PEACE AND CONCORD IN SVN."
THE SPOKESMAN OF THE "PRG" TPJMC DELEGATION IN SAIGON
MADE A SIMILAR STATEMENT NOV 9, AND HANOI MEDIA
HAVE COMMENTED ALONG THE SAME LINES.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 14253 03 OF 06 131111Z

13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON
USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 14253 03 OF 06 131111Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 6 SAIGON 14253

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART V - MR-1

1. SECURITY SITUATION:

I CORPS HQS BRIEFED 273 CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS THIS WEEK, AN INCREASE FROM LAST WEEK'S 267. FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THUA THIEN (P), QUANG NAM (P), AND IN QUANG NGAI (P). GVN CASUALTIES: 96 KIA; 466 WIA; 104 MIA. COMMUNIST LOSSES WERE: 334 KIA; 14 CAPTURED; AND 1 RETURNEE. VNAF FLEW 161 COMBAT SORTIES. THE INCREASED AIR ACTIVITY IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE FAIR WEATHER IN MR-1 DURING THE PAST WEEK FOLLOWING LAST WEEK'S BAD WEATHER.

2. NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT COMMUNIST ACTIVITY IN QUANG TRI (P). IN THUA THIEN (P), GVN UNITS HAVE CONTINUED THEIR EFFORTS TO RETAKE MO TAU MOUNTAIN. TO DATE, IN SPTIE OF CONSTANT GVN PRESSURE, THE COMMUNISTS ARE CONTINUING TO RESIST AND ARE SUBJECTING

THE ARVN UNITS TO HEAVY ABF'S.

ON NOV 10, COMMUNISTS THREW AN EXPLOSIVE INTO A CROWD WATCHING A BOAT RACE NW OF HUONG THUY (D); SEVEN CIVILIANS WERE INJURED.

ON NOV 11, AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO BLOW UP AN AMMUNITION STORAGE AREA OF THE 512TH DEPOT NEAR PHU BAI BASE. NO DAMAGE RESULTED. TWO PIECES OF UNEXPLODED TNT WERE FOUND WITHIN THE AREA DURING A SUBSEQUENT SEARCH. AT 0045 HOURS, NOV 12, THREE COMMUNIST SAPPERS AGAIN TRIED TO PENETRATE THIS SAME AMMO DUMP. THEY WERE DISCOVERED; ONE WAS KILLED, AND TWO WERE CAPTURED ALONG WITH ONE K54, BINOCULARS, COMPASS, EXPLOSIVES AND DETONATORS.

3. SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS:

IN CENTRAL QUANG NAM (P), GVN AIRBORNE UNITS REOCCUPIED THE CREST
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PAGE 03 SAIGON 14253 03 OF 06 131111Z

OF HILL 1062 ON NOV ON AFTER BOTH SUFFERING AND INFLECTING HEAVY CASUALTIES. INTENSIVE ARTILLERY AND COMBAT AIR SUPPORT WERE FURNISHED TO THE AIRBORNE UNITS. ALTHOUGH THE AIRBORNE HAS REGAINED THE SUMMIT, COMMUNIST GROUND ATTACKS AND ABF'S ARE CONTINUING.

ON NOV 5, COMMUNIST GUNNERS FIRED 12 ROUNDS OF 62MM MORTAR ON AN RF UNIT 3 KM SE OF DUY XUYEN RESULTING IN ONE CIVILIAN KILLED AND FOUR OTHER PERSONS INJURED INCLUDING ONE CIVILIAN.

ON NOV 8, TWO 17 YEAR OLD STUDENTS THREW A HAND GRENADE AT SOME NATIONAL POLICEMEN AT A BUSY INTERSECTION IN DA NANG CITY RESULTING IN TWO POLICE AND TWO CIVILIANS WOUNDED. THE ASSAILANTS WERE CAPTURED A SHORT TIME LATER.

ON NOV 8, A COMMERCIAL BUS TRAVELLING A SECONDARY ROAD HIT A COMMUNIST MINE 4 KM EAST OF DAI LOC KILLING THREE CIVILIANS, WOUNDING THREE OTHERS, AND DOING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO THE BUS.

IN QUANG TIN (P), THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT FIGHTING DURING THIS PERIOD. ON NOV 8, THE COMMUNISTS BLEW UP THE "ONG TRIEU" CULVERT ON ROUTE 534. THIS UNGUARDED CULVERT CONSTRUCTED OF PERFORATED METAL SHEETS WAS 80 PERCENT DESTROYED BUT WAS REPAIRED AFTER A SHORT INTERRUPTION OF TRAFFIC.

IN QUANG NGAI (P), GVN UNITS IN THE BINH SON AREA HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO STEADILY INCREASING COMMUNIST GROUND ATTACKS AND ABF'S, NGHIA SUB SECTOR AND UNITS IN THE MO DUC AREA ARE STILL SUBJECTED TO MIXED MORTAR, ROCKET, AND ARTILLERY SHELLING. ON NOV 11, NORTH OF SON THANH, AN ARVN RF BATTALION CAME UNDER ATTACK AND WAS SCATTERED WITH 8 KIA, 23 WIA, AND 92 MIA REPORTED. THE COMMUNISTS

REPORTEDLY SUFFERED 25 KIA. ON NOV 12, ANOTHER ARVN RF UNIT WAS UNDER ATTACK AND CONTACT WAS LOST. THESE TWO ATTACKS IN THE SAME GENERAL LOCATION SUGGEST THE COMMUNISTS MAY INTEND TO BRING SIGNIFICANT PRESSURE TO BEAR IN THIS AREA.

ON NOV 5, A CIVILIAN DUMP TRUCK HIT A COMMUNIST MINE 5 KM NW OF DUC PHO RESULTING IN ONE HAMLET CHIEF KILLED AND THREE OTHER CIVILIANS INJURED.

ON NOV 9, COMMUNISTS ENTERED TU THUAN (V), 5 KM WEST OF QUANG NGAI
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PAGE 04 SAIGON 14253 03 OF 06 131111Z

(C) AND ABDUCTED 37 CIVILIANS. ON NOV 10, COMMUNISTS KIDNAPPED 30 CIVILIANS WORKING IN RICE FIELDS 20 KM NORTH OF QUANG NGAI (C).

AT 0215 AND 0435 HOURS, NOV 11, TWO CULVERTS ON HIGHWAY 1, NW OF SA HUYNH WERE HEAVILY DAMAGED BY COMMUNIST SET EXPLOSIVES. TRAFFIC WAS INTERRUPTED BUT REPAIRS WERE COMPLETED BY 1600 HOURS THE SAME DAY. ON THE MORNING OF NOV 12, TWO ADDITIONAL CULVERTS ON HIGHWAY 1 WERE SABOTAGED. ONE IS NW OF DUC PHO, THE OTHER SE OF DUC PHO. TRAFFIC IS PRESENTLY INTERRUPTED.

4. ICCS:

THERE WERE NO OBSERVATIONS OR INVESTIGATIONS IN EITHER ICCS REGION I OR II DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 14253 04 OF 06 131133Z

11

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 14253 04 OF 06 131133Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 OF 6 SAIGON 14253

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VI - MR-2

1. SUMMARY: FEW SIGNIFICANT MILITARY ENGAGEMENTS WERE REPORTED THIS WEEK AS THE OPPOSING FORCES TOOK A BREATHER BEFORE THE ONSET OF THE DRY SEASON IN THE HIGHLANDS AND THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MONSOON ALONG THE COAST. MOST OF THE ACTION OCCURED IN BINH DINH WHERE A MAJOR CONTACT NOV 11 BETWEEN ELEMENTS OF THE 3RD NVA DIVISION AND THE 41ST ARVN REGTAK WHICH IS MAINTAINING A POSITION THREATENING NVA RESUPPLY OUT OF THE AN LAO VALLEY, REPORTEDLY RESULTED IN 47 NVA KIA AND LIGHT CASUALTIES TO ARVN. KONTUM SECTOR INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT THE 40TH NVA ARTILLERY REGT HAS MOVED TO WITHIN ARTILLERY RANGE NORTH OF KONTUM CITY. BOTH

QL-19 IN BINH DINH AND QL-21 IN NANH HOA CAME UNDER COMMUNIST ATTACK DURING THE WEEK WITH QL-19 STILL INTERDICTED WEST OF BINH KHE. PHAN THIET, THE CAPITAL OF BINH THUAN PROVINCE, RECEIVED 7 ROUNDS OF MORTAR FIRE CAUSING TWO WOUNDED AND LIGHT PROPERTY DAMAGE. COMMUNIST INITIATED INCIDENTS ROSE SLIGHTLY TO 41, UP FROM 36 THE PREVIOUS WEEK. GOVERNMENT LOSSES WERE 29 KIA, 104 WIA, AND 13 WEAPONS COMPARED WITH 39 KIA, 65 WIA, AND 47 WEAPONS REPORTED LAST WEEK. COMMUNIST CASUALTIES DROPPED TO 65 KIA ALONG WITH 32 WEAPONS CAPTURED AS OPPOSED TO 185 KIA AND 55 WEAPONS CAPTURED THE PRECEEDING WEEK. ARTILLERY EXPENDITURE DECLINED 53 PERCENT. THE USE OF TAC AIR AND AERIAL RECON ASSETS ALSO DECLINED TO 101 AND 126 SORTIES FLOWN RESPECTIVELY, DOWN FROM 221 AND 162. HELICOPTER SORTIES INCREASED SLIGHTLY TO 510, UP FROM 414.

2. BINH DINH: MILITARY ACTION IN BINH DINH ABATED SOMEWHAT THE PAST WEEK. THE NVA APPEARS TO BE REPOSITIONING ITS UNITS IN ORDER TO PUT FRESH TROOPS ON THE LINE. UNCONFIRMED ARVN INTELLIGENCE REPORTS INDICATED THAT THE 141ST NVA REGT MOVED OUT OF THE BONG SON AREA SOUTHWARD TO REPLACE THE 2ND REGT IN NORTHERN PHU MY. SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE 12TH NVA REGT TOOK OVER FROM THE 141ST REGT. HIGH FLOOD WATERS IN THE AN LAO AND ARVN HARASSMENT OF THE COMMUNIST'S RESUPPLY SYSTEM MAY HAVE FURTHER CONTRIBUTED TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 14253 04 OF 06 131133Z

CURRENT LULL IN FIGHTING. THE GVN ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO RELOCATE ITS FORCES AS THE 42ND REGT WITHDREW TO 22ND DIVISION HQS NEAR QUI NHON WHILE THE 47TH REGT REPLACED IT IN PHU MY. ON NOV 11, THE 41ST ARVN REGT SITUATED AT THE MOUTH OF THE AN LAO RECEIVED 600 ROUNDS OF 82MM AND 61 MM MORTAR AND 75MM RECOILLESS RIFLE FIRE FOLLOWED BY A GROUND ASSAULT CONDUCTED BY ELEMENTS OF THE 3RD NVA DIV. THE DEFENDING FORCES REPORT 6 WIA WHILE THE NVA REPORTEDLY SUSTAINED LOSSES OF 47 KIA ALONG WITH 4 RIFLES, 2 B-40 ROCKET LAUNCHERS, ONE 75MM RECOILLESS RIFLE, AND ONE AMMO DUMP DESTROYED BY ARTILLERY. AN ESTIMATED BATTALION-SITE COMMUNIST FORCE ATTACKED THREE RF/PF POSITIONS IN PHU CAT DISTRICT ON NOV 9 INFLECTING LOSSES OF 5 KIA (INCLUDING AN RF COMPANY COMMANDER), 7 WIA, 8 WEAPONS AND ONE PRC-25 RADIO. ALSO ON NOV 9, THE RTV SITE AT VAN NINH, PHU MY DISTRICT WAS HIT BY 3 ROUNDS OF 82MM MORTAR, KILLING 3 AND WOUNDING 7 CIVILIANS. THE COMMUNISTS SUCCESSFULLY INTERDICTED TRAFFIC ON QL-19 WEST OF THE AN CE PASS ON NOV 11. MORTAR ATTACKS HAVE SO FAR CAUSED THE DEATHS OF 4 CIVILIANS AND WOUNDED 20-25 OTHERS WHO WERE TRAVELLING THE HIGHWAY.

3. KHANH HOA: ON NOV 11, COMMUNIST FORCES ON TWO OCCASIONS DIRECTED RECOILLESS RIFLE AND MORTAR FIRE AGAINST THE 246TH RF BN PROVIDING SECURITY ALONG QL-21 (BP 724884). A PF PLATOON POSITIONED ON QL-21 ALSO CAME UNDER ATTACK THE SAME DAY WHILE A MILITARY VEHICLE TRAVELLING QL-1 BETWEEN NHA TRANG CITY AND

NINH HOA WAS AMBUSHED BY B-40 FIRE. A READOUT OF DOCUMENTS RECENTLY CAPTURED BY SECTOR INTELLIGENCE FORCES INDICATED THAT THE 480TH SAPPER BATTALION, WHICH WAS REDUCED TO COMPANY SIZE EARLY IN SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR, HAS RECENTLY RECEIVED SUFFICIENT REPLACEMENTS TO BRING IT BACK TO FULL BATTALION SIZE. AFTER THE UNIT IS UP TO STRENGTH, THE DOCUMENTS DIRECT THE 480TH TO ENGAGE IN OVERT-COVERT OPERATIONS IN THE DIEN-KHANH-NHA TRANG AREA.

4. KONTUM/PLEIKU: LITTLE MILITARY ACTIVITY OCCURRED IN KONTUM THIS WEEK. ARTILLERY EXPENDITURE BY ARVN DROPPED 50 PERCENT. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT WAS THE REPORTED MOVEMENT OF THE 40TH NVA ARTY REGT INTO A POSITION 16 KM NORTH OF KONTUM CITY. THE PROVINCE CHIEF STATED THAT HE ANTICIPATES SHELLING OF THE PROVINCE CAPITAL "PERHAPS" IN THE NEAR FUTURE. ARVN INTELLIGENCE SOURCES HAVE CONFIRMED THE COMPLETION OF A CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SAIGON 14253 04 OF 06 131133Z

42KM LONG, 4 METER WIDE CORRIDOR CONNECTING HIGHWAY QL-14 BETWEEN A POINT 3 KM SE OF DIEN BINH TO 15 KM NW OF CHUONG NGHIA. THE ARVN 45TH REGT WEST OF PLEIKU CITY CONTINUES TO BE THE FOCUS OF COMMUNIST HARASSING ATTACKS.

5. BINH THUAN: PHAN THIET CITY AND THIEN GIAO SUB-SECTOR SIMULTANEOUSLY RECEIVED MORTAR AND RECOILLESS RIFLE ATTACKS ON NOV 10 CAUSING LIGHT CASUALTIES. ALSO ON NOV 10, TINH MY SUB-SUBSECTOR WAS PENETRATED BY SAPPERS WHO SERIOUSLY DAMAGED THE VILLAGE HQS AND CAPTURED 6 RADIOS. THE VC DETONATED A CLAYMORE MINE IN THE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTER FOR THE LUONG SON RESETTLEMENT SITE DURING THE WEEK, KILLING 4 MILITARY DEPENDENTS.

6. OTHER: ON NOV 11 THE COMMUNIST SHELLED DONG XUAN SUB-SECTOR HQS LOCATED ON QL-1 IN PHU YEN PROVINCE CAUSING NO CASUALTIES. THE CHIEF OF PHU NHUAN HAMLET LOCATED QU KM SOUTH OF DONG XUAN WAS ASSASSINATED NOV 7. A COMBINED RANGER-TERRITORIAL FORCE OPERATION CONDUCTED IN BUON HO DISTRICT OF DARLAC PROVINCE PRECIPITATED LIGHT CONTACTS WITH ELEMENTS OF THE K-3 BN, E-25 NVA REGT. THE PROVINCE CHIEF BELIEVES THE INFORMATION RECENTLY ACQUIRED FROM RALLIERS AND AN ARVN ESCAPEE IS RELIABLE AND CONFIRMS THAT THE COMMUNIST FORCES PLAN TO ATTACK BAN DON AND BUON HO DISTRICT AND BAN ME THUOT CITY. A CIVILIAN BUS TRAVELLING QL-14 IN KIEN DUC DISTRICT, QUANG DUC PROVINCE HIT A MINE NOV 5. QUANG DUC AND PHUOC LONG SECTORS ARE CONDUCTING JOINT OPERATIONS TO OPEN THE ROAD AGAIN BETWEEN THE TWO PROVINCES.

7. ICCS: ON NOV 11, BOTH THE IRANIAN AND INDONESIAN DELEGATIONS MADE INDEPENDENT OBSERVATIONS OF DAMAGES SUSTAINED IN PHAN THIET CITY DURING A MORTAR ATTACK CONDUCTED BY COMMUNIST FORCES NOV 10. ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION, PROSPECTS OF ITS IMPENDING DEMISE BROUGHT

THE ICCS BRIEFLY TO LIFE. IT RELAPSED, HOWEVER, INTO ITS NORMAL
COMATOSE STATE UPON RECEIPT OF ITS REPRIEVE.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 14253 05 OF 06 131223Z

11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 DPW-01 IO-10 /082 W

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R 131015Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0273

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CG FMFPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER

COMUSMACTHAI

USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 14253 05 OF 06 131223Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 5 OF 6 SAIGON 14253

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VII - MR-3

1. A RELATIVE LULL PREVAILED OVER MR-3 AS COMMUNIST FORCES CONTINUED THEIR TACTICS OF TERRORISM, SAPPER ATTACKS, AND LIGHT SHELLING. LTG DONG ASSUMED COMMAND OF MR-3 ON NOVEMBER 7. MR-3 IS PREPARING FOR THE COMMUNISTS' NEW HIGH POINT IN THE DRY SEASON.

2. THE NUMBER OF MILITARY INCIDENTS IN MR-3 ROSE SLIGHTLY THIS WEEK WITH 145 INCIDENTS COMPARED WITH LAST WEEK'S 114. REGIONAL HQS REPORTED 38 GROUND CONTACTS (29 LAST WEEK), 42 ATTACKS BY FIRE (40 LAST WEEK), AND ONE COMBINED GROUND AND ABF. MINING INCIDENTS INCREASED FROM 20 LAST WEEK TO 31 THIS PERIOD. THERE WERE 33 MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS. BINH DUONG REMAINED THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE WITH 36 INCIDENTS, WHILE BINH LONG REPORTED 19 AND BIEN HOA 18.

3. THE TOTAL OF NVA/VC ARTILLERY AND MORTAR ROUNDS FIRED DECLINED FROM 558 LAST WEEK TO 443 FOR THIS PERIOD. ARTILLERY EXPENDITURES FOR RVNAF WERE CUT DRASTICALLY TO 2,781 ROUNDS COMPARED WITH LAST WEEK'S 7,126. VNAF FLEW 157 FIXED-WING SORTIES, AN INCREASE OVER LAST WEEK'S 109. THE MAJORITY OF MISSIONS FLOWN WERE AGAINST TARGETS IN AN LOC AND IN CONG THANH DISTRICT IN BIEN HOA. HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS FLEW 131 SORTIES AS ESCORT.

4. GVN CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED AS 30 KIA, 124 WIA, AND 11 MIA WHILE NVA/VC LOSSES WERE 48 KIA, 11 CIA, AND 10 RALLIERS. IN ADDITION, VNAF CLAIMED 97 NVA/VC KILLED BY AIR STRIKES.

5. BINH DUONG MAINTAINED ITS POSITION AS THE MOST ACTIVE PROVINCE IN MR-3 WITH GROUND CONTACTS INCREASING IN BOTH NUMBER AND INTENSITY. A MAJOR CONTACT OCCURRED ON THE AFTERNOON OF NOV 7 WHEN TWO RANGER COMPANIES FOUGHT A FOUR HOUR BATTLE WITH A COMMUNIST FORCE EIGHT KMS SOUTHEAST OF BEN CAT. RANGER LOSSES WERE TWO KIA, NINE WIA, AND TWO MIA WHILE NVA LOSSES WERE UNKNOWN. A SECOND MAJOR CONTACT TOOK PLACE NOV 10 WHEN AN ARVN RECONNAISSANCE

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 14253 05 OF 06 131223Z

COMPANY MET AN NVA FORCE FIVE KMS SOUTHWEST OF BEN CAT. ARVN CASUALTIES WERE NINE WIA WHILE THE NVA SUFFERED 12 KIA AND ONE CIA. THE OFFICE OF THANH AN VILLAGE, NOW LOCATED TWO KMS SOUTHEAST OF TRI TAM DISTRICT TOWN WAS THE TARGET OF SAPPERS WHO, DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF NOV 11, FIRED EIGHT ROUNDS OF B40 ROCKET INTO THE OFFICE WOUNDING EIGHT INCLUDING TWO VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

6. IN BIEN HOA, DURING THE MORNING OF NOV 6, A RECONNAISSANCE TEAM FROM THE 81ST AIRBORNE RANGERS LED BY A CAPTURED NVA SOLDIER WAS ENGAGED BY AN NVA PLATOON 20 KMS NORTHEAST OF CONG THANH DISTRICT TOWN. THE RANGERS SUFFERED THREE WIA AND THREE MIA (INCLUDING THE PW) WHILE THE NVA HAD TWO KIA AND TWO CIA. IN A TERRORIST INCIDENT AT 8:00 PM ON NOV 8, A BANANA TRUCK TRAVELING ON QL 1 23 KMS EAST OF BIEN HOA TOWN WAS HIT BY A B40 ROCKET AND AK FIRE. TWO CIVILIANS WERE WOUNDED AND THE TRUCK WAS DESTROYED.

7. IN BINH LONG, RANGER AND TERRITORIAL FORCES CONTINUED TO BE A TARGET OF NVA ABF'S. THIS WEEK OVER 280 ROUNDS OF MORTAR, RIFLE GRENADE AND ROCKET FIRE WERE HURLED AT RVNAF POSITIONS THREE TO SIX KMS SOUTH OF AN LOC WITH MINOR CASUALTIES REPORTED. IN A GROUND ATTACK FIVE KMS SOUTHEAST OF AN LOC ON NOV 7, THE RANGERS REPULSED AN NVA PLATOON ATTEMPTING TO OVERRUN THEIR POSITION. LOSSES WERE TWO WOUNDED RANGERS WHILE THE NVA HAD TWO KILLED. ON THE SAME DAY A HELICOPTER TRANSPORTING MEMBERS OF THE TPJMC TO LOC NINH RECEIVED ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE 10 KMS SOUTHEAST OF AN LOC BUT REPORTED NO CASUALTIES.

8. GIA DINH CONTINUED TO BE THE TARGET OF NVA/VC SAPPER ACTIVITIES. ON NOV 8 ON A SECONDARY ROAD 15 KMS NORTHWEST OF TAN SON NHUT AIR BASE, A SECURITY ELEMENT ON THE LON BRIDGE SPOTTED A SAMPAN DRIFTING TOWARDS THEM. THEY OPENED FIRE AT THE SAMPAN CAUSING THE SAPPERS INSIDE TO ABANDON IT. THE SAMPAN, WITH AN EXTIMATED 100 KILOS OF TNT, WAS THEN TOWED AWAY AND LATER EXPLODED AT A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE BRIDGE. THREE POLICEMEN AND ONE CIVILIAN WERE WOUNDED ON NOV 10 WHEN A TERRORIST HURLED A GRENADE AT A POLICE CHECKPOINT LOCATED IN THE 11TH PRECINCT ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF THE SAIGON CITY LIMITS. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY ANOTHER TERRORIST INCIDENT OCCURRED WHEN A HAND GRENADE WAS THROWN IN BEN DO HAMLET 17 KMS NORTHWEST OF SAIGON RESULTING IN FOUR CIVILIANS WOUNDED INCLUDING THE HAMLET CHIEF. ON THE SAME DAY THE DA PHUOC SUB-SUBSECTOR OFFICE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 SAIGON 14253 05 OF 06 131223Z

EIGHT KMS SOUTH OF SAIGON RECEIVED EIGHT ROUNDS OF B40/B41 RESULTING IN TWO KIA AND SEVEN WIA.

9. IN LONG AN PROVINCE ALERT SECURITY PERSONNEL TWICE THWARTED NVA/VC SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS. THE FIRST ATTEMPT TOOK PLACE ON NOV 8 AT BINH CHANH VILLAGE THREE KMS SOUTHEAST OF LONG AN PROVINCE

CAPITAL WHEN A SAPPER TEAM ATTEMPTING TO BLOW UP THE POLICE HEADQUARTERS WAS DISCOVERED AND DRIVEN OFF. THE SECOND ATTEMPT TOOK PLACE ON NOV 11 WHEN A SAPPER WAS KILLED BY LOCAL FORCES GUARDING THE KINH SANG BRIDGE, 10 KMS NORTHWEST OF BEN LUC DISTRICT TOWN ON ROUTE 224.

10. ICCS: ON NOVEMBER 11 BOTH THE IRANIAN AND INDONESIAN DELEGATIONS FROM THE TAN AN SUBREGIONAL SITE CONDUCTED AN OBSERVATION OF THE KINH SANG BRIDGE AREA WHERE THE COMMUNIST SAPPER ATTEMPT TOOK PLACE (PRECEDING PARA). ON NOVEMBER 12 THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION MADE AN OBSERVATION OF GVN AMMUNITION DESTRUCTION AT THE LONG BINH ARVN BASE.

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 14253 06 OF 06 131212Z

13
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 DPW-01 IO-10 /082 W

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R 131015Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0274
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL JEC PARIS
USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CG FMFPAC
CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB
CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER
COMUSMACTHAI
USDAO SAIGON

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 14253 06 OF 06 131212Z

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 6 OF 6 SAIGON 14253

USIA FOR IBS/NCA

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

PART VIII - MR 4

1. SECURITY SITUATION: (A) OVERALL SECURITY: DELTA
ACTIVITY INCREASED SHARPLY OVER THE WEEKEND, WITH THE
SURGE MOST PRONOUNCED IN VC MR3; ACTIVITY IN THE NORTHERN
DELTA REMAINS AT ABOUT LAST WEEK'S LEVEL. HARDEST HIT WAS
VINH LONG PROVINCE, WHERE AT LEAST TEN OB'S AND WATCHTOWERS
WERE LOST AND SEVERAL LOC'S WERE INTERDICTED. FOR THE FIRST
TIME IN SEVERAL MONTHS, 7TH ARVN DIVISION TROOPS HAVE BEEN
MOVED TO THE PROVINCE. CORPS REPORTS 383 VC/NVA-INITIATED
INCIDENTS (135 LAST WEEK) INCLUDING 56 GROUND ATTACKS (4),
ONE INFILTRATION (NONE), 234 ABF'S (88), 71 HARASSMENTS (35),
15 SABOTAGE (2), 5 TERRORIST INCIDENTS (6), AND ONE MAJOR
AMBUSH. LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES INCREASED SHARPLY. GVN LOSSES
ARE REPORTED AS 183 KIA (82), 680 WIA (291), 91 MIA (37),
AND 5 CREW-SERVED (NONE) AND 229 INDIVIDUAL (68) WEAPONS LOST.
CORPS CLAIMS 447 VC/NVA KILLED (218), 20 PRISONERS AND SUSPECTS
CAPTURED (51), AND 17 CREW-SERVED (3) AND 144 INDIVIDUAL (85)
WEAPONS SEIZED.

(B) NORTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN DINH TUONG PROVINCE REMAINED
AT A MODERATE LEVEL. GIAO DUC DISTRICT TOWN WAS HEAVILY SHELLED
FOR THE SECOND TIME IN SIX WEEKS, THIS TIME BY 4X107MM ROCKETS
AND 36X82MM MORTAR WHICH KILLED ONE AND INJURED 12. A GRENADE
THROWN INTO A NATIONAL POLICE STATION IN MY THO CITY WOUNDED
TWO. IN THE LAST MORNING OF THE REPORTING PERIOD, BEN TRANH
AND CHO GAO DISTRICTS REPORTED INCREASED ACTIVITY AGAINST OB'S,
BUT DETAILS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE. PROVINCE CHIEF BELIEVES
THIS ACTIVITY IS NOT RELATED TO INFILTRATION, BUT IS AN ATTEMPT

TO DIVERT GVN ATTENTION FROM WESTERN DINH TUONG. KIEN PHONG PROVINCE REMAINED QUIET, BUT S-2 EXPECTS INCREASED ACTIVITY BEGINNING NOVEMBER 13 WITH ROUTE 30 IN KIEN VAN (D) AND THAP MUOI CANAL IN CAO LANH (D) THE PRIMARY VC/NVA TARGETS. SOME RESIDENTS OF THAP MUOI CANAL AREA HAVE ALREADY EVACUATED THEIR
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PAGE 03 SAIGON 14253 06 OF 06 131212Z

HOMES IN ANTICIPATION OF RENEWED FIGHTING. IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE, A MODIFIED 107MM ROCKET DESTROYED 40 PERCENT OF THE SECTOR AMMO STORAGE OUTSIDE THE PROVINCE TOWN; ESTIMATED LOSS IS 4000 ROUNDS OF 155 AND 105 MM SHELLS AND ASSORTED OTHER AMMO. THERE WERE TWO MORE KIDNAPPINGS IN TUYEN NHON (D) WITH 14 VICTIMS. SUCH INCIDENTS ARE INCREASINGLY COMMON IN EASTERN KIEN TUONG, AND SECTOR BELIEVES THE VICTIMS ARE USED AS LABORERS ON INFILTRATION ROUTE 1B. IN CHAU DOC PROVINCE, A PF PLATOON KILLED 5 VC 4 KM SOUTH OF TINH BIEN DISTRICT HQ WHILE SUSTAINING 2 KILLED AND ONE WOUNDED.

(C) CENTRAL DELTA: KIEN HOA PROVINCE WAS QUIET WITH ALL VC/NVA-INITIATED INCIDENTS CONSISTING OF HARASSMENTS OF FOUR OR LESS ROUNDS OF RECOILESS RIFLE/MORTAR. SECTOR OFFICIALS INTERPRET THIS AS INDICATION OF VC/NVA SUPPLY SHORTAGE. VINH BINH PROVINCE REPORTS INCREASED ACTIVITY. TWO MORE OB'S (ONE IN LONG TOAN, THE OTHER IN CHAU THANH) WERE ABANDONED. A RESUPPLY HELICOPTER WAS SHOT DOWN BY MACHINE GUN FIRE AS IT APPROACHED AN OB IN NORTHERN LONG TOAN (D); 9 MILITARY WERE WOUNDED AND THE AIRCRAFT HEAVILY DAMAGED. NEIGHBORING VINH LONG PROVINCE EXPERIENCED THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF INCIDENTS SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. VINH LONG PROVINCE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS FIRST FOUR DAYS OF CURRENT HIGHPOINT HAVE BEEN COSTLY TO GVN AS MEASURED BY BOTH CASUALTIES AND TERRITORIAL SECURITY. 10 OB'S AND WATCHTOWERS WERE REPORTED ABANDONED OR OVERRUN AND 10 OTHERS ARE REPORTED AS "POSSIBLY" ABANDONED OR OVERRUN. ONE OF THE OB OVERRUNS IN EASTERN TAM BINH (D) AND A SUBSEQUENT RF OPERATION TO REOCCUPY IT RESULTED IN 21 RF KIA, 21 MIA AND 16 WIA WITH NO VC CASUALTIES REPORTED. SEVERAL PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT ROADS WERE INTERDICTED DURING THE PERIOD. THE ARVN DIVISION TROOPS HAVE MOVED TO TAM BINH (D) AND AN APC SQUADRON TO CHAU THANH (D). ACTIVITY IN PHONG DINH PROVINCE INCREASED SOMEWHAT, BUT MOST GVN CASUALTIES OCCURRED IN ATTACKS ON TWO OB'S IN THUAN TRUNG AND PHUNG HIEP DISTRICTS. TRAFFIC ON HIGHWAY 4 WAS INTERRUPTED AGAIN BY A BLOWN CULVERT IN NORTHERN PHUNG HIEP (D). KIEN GIANG PROVINCE WAS ALSO MORE ACTIVE, WITH KIEN BINH (D) HARDEST HIT. SIX OF THE DISTRICT'S EIGHT VILLAGE HQ AND THE DISTRICT TOWN WERE SHELLED AND ONE OF THE VILLAGES CAME UNDER GROUND ATTACK. KIEN AN AND HIEU LE DISTRICT TOWNS WERE ALSO SHELLED. ROUTE 8A FROM RACH GIA TO HA TIEN IS CLOSED AGAIN AFTER 3 BRIDGES WERE BLOWN UP, BUT GVN TROOPS KILLED 24 VC/NVA ALONG THE ROAD DUE
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PAGE 04 SAIGON 14253 06 OF 06 131212Z

WEST OF THE THREE SISTERS MOUNTAINS.

(D) SOUTHERN DELTA: ACTIVITY IN BA XUYEN PROVINCE INCREASED, PARTICULARLY IN THUAN HOA, KE SACH AND THANH TRI DISTRICTS. TWO OB'S AND A WATCHTOWER WERE ABANDONED OR OVERRUN AND THUAN HOA DISTRICT HQ WAS SHELLLED WITH NO CASUALTIES. BAC LIEU PROVINCE EXPERIENCED A MINI-HIGHPOINT NOVEMBER 8, BUT ACTIVITY DECLINED THEREAFTER. MOST SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT WAS SHELLING OF GIA RAI DISTRICT HQ CAUSING NO DAMAGE OR CASUALTIES. BAC LIEU S-2 BELIEVES CURRENT VC/NVA INITIATIVES ARE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT TAX-COLLECTION DURING RICE HARVEST. IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE, LONG MY DISTRICT HQ WAS SHELLLED TWICE WITH NO RESULTS. GVN TROOPS SCORED A SMALL VICTORY BY KILLING 17 AND CAPTURING 4 CREW-SERVED WEAPONS JUST NORTH OF THE SAME DISTRICT TOWN WHILE SUSTAINING TWO KILLED AND SIX WOUNDED. ACTIVITY IN AN XUYEN PROVINCE INCREASED SHARPLY, BUT THE INCREASE CONSISTED ALMOST ENTIRELY OF ABF'S; GVN CASUALTIES REMAINED LIGHT. TWO ARVN BATTALIONS AND A VNN RIVER ASSAULT GROUP REMAIN IN SONG ONG DOC (D) WHERE A BOAT FROM THE RAG WAS SUNK THIS WEEK. ANOTHER BATTALION IS OPERATING IN THOI BINH

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